

SNOW, ICE, AND WIND.

A widespread storm reaching Southward to the Gulf.

FOR TWENTY-FOUR HOURS—A Bitter cold—THE HARBOR—AN INCH AND A HALF OF SNOW—WAY BELOW FREEZING IN THE SUNKY SOUTH.

(Baltimore American, yesterday.)

Steady snow for twenty-four hours! That is what this devoted city has seen upon it from 6:30 P. M. Tuesday until about 6:30 A. M. yesterday afternoon; and, indeed, it pegged away all day yesterday so steadily that it seemed as if we were going to have our eleven feet of snow, after all. About 6:30, however, it suddenly ceased, off and on 8 o'clock, there was a lull in the snow, and the sun was cold! All day long yesterday the flakes fell thick and fast, and the city seemed really obscured in a whirling cloud. It was a dry, crisp snow, although the flakes were large, and lay lightly on what ever they touched. The constant whirling over the roofs kept it from becoming compact, so that it really did not weigh as much inconvenience to vehicles and pedestrians as half the quantity would have fallen during the night. Still, it was something of a drawback to business, and traveling was rendered more and more difficult as the morning advanced. The snow became stalled at East Buffalo and was abandoned, as was also the afternoon local. The difficulty will probably be removed by tomorrow. Freight trains generally are either abandoned temporarily or are running irregularly. The snow, however, preceded by an immense snow-plough, with three engines, became stalled at Ebenezer and put back to the depot and was abandoned. No live stock was shipped from here to-day. At Silver Creek to-night Myron P. Rose, conductor of a way freight train, while walking on the track in front of the engine of his train, was run over and instantly killed. It is supposed that the storm and darkness prevented him from seeing his danger until too late.

THE NEW JERSEY COAST.

LONG BRANCH, N. J., December 29.—At 5 o'clock this morning another severe storm set in, and continued unabated to-night. At Red Bank six inches of snow have fallen, which, on the coast, is a record. The sea was so high that it was necessary to take refuge in the houses, and all that kind of thing, could not summon up the courage to come out on the hills with their sleds. Even the tinkle of sleigh-bells was as scarce as hens' teeth. There were a few sleighs out, but they were occupied chiefly by persons who were out on business and not for pleasure. The snow was usually rufous forward when the sleighing is good and extends his last V. usually for an hour with a single back and an old basket was not to be seen. In sport, the city was as quiet and cool and white as if it had been winter for a week. The snow drove and whirled through the streets, filling every nook and cranny, drifting over every inequality in the pavements, and covering up gently every smudge and smut and trace of the wheels of commerce. The most melancholy sight attending the snowfall was the unfinished buildings, and notably the new Corn and Flour Exchange, the new stock exchange, and the Baltimore and Ohio building, work on all of these having been hopelessly stopped, and the framework, the scaffolding, derricks, masts and iron girders were all covered up like in a foot and a half of snow.

A WIDESPREAD STORM.

The cold weather, accompanied either by snow, rain, or sleet, has been the rule of the entire United States, and is at present prevailing from New England to Georgia and Alabama, and westward, especially in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Tennessee, and the lake region. The Signal office reports that not for two weeks has there come in from any station such a heavy snowfall as that reported. The heavy snowfalls are reported to have journeyed successively in a northeasterly direction from the Gulf of Mexico. The storm which passed over the city yesterday is pursuing the same course, and has extended its force along the Atlantic coast, and the snow-storms have been accompanied by violent winds. Yesterday we had comparatively little wind, and the snow fell in Georgia and Alabama, and even a few flakes in Louisiana, was an unusual thing.

OUR SNOWFALL.

The snowfall on Tuesday, December 29th, in this city, was 3.1 inches. On Friday and Saturday it fell, and on Christmas-day the snow had dissolved into a drizzly sleet, which was accompanied by a violent wind. On Christmas night, however, the rain turned again to snow, and between 12 and 6 o'clock Sunday morning a snow storm of considerable force set in, and the fact that there were 4.4 additional inches on the ground. This made a total of 9 inches fall since the 24th, and when 3.2 inches fell again yesterday, the total fall aggregated something over 12.7 inches. In this city, however, the snow is not so heavy as in some places in the State. A letter from Loudoun county, Va., written on Tuesday (before the last storm), states that the roads are entirely impassable from drifts, and the only means by which people can travel from one point to another is by the use of sleds. The fields, from Front Royal and the region of Manassas Gap the reports give two to three feet of snow, and in some portions of Western Maryland the snowfall has been appalling.

THE HARBOR.

There are great and well-grounded fears that we will have an ice-blockade in the harbor, and creeks, and the reports which are brought in by the ice steamers are already alarming. The Rappahannock is full of ice, and the Theodore Weems was unable to get to Fredericksburg. The canal full of ice, and the Philadelphia boats were obliged to stop until a heavy ice in the Chester river, and has discontinued running. The steamers from the Chesapeake report thick ice, and will probably have to stop their trips. The steamer West report ice in the Big W. river, dividing and dyking the river around the boats in the basin yesterday, and it is probable that the cold water during last night has thickened it considerably. Captain Higgins of the ice-boat Maryland, went down to Seven-Point Knoll yesterday and reported no ice except what was floating in the creeks. There was no ice, however, on the river. The steamer Helen arrived yesterday morning, and reports that the water over on the Eastern Shore of Virginia has been terrible, and ice is forming fast. It is probable that this weather will continue, in a measure, for a day or two yet. It is a stiff, keen, cold, lasting spell, and the ice is frozen so tightly. It is cold just at present all over the country, and it is difficult to see how there can be any moderation for some time to come.

The railroads are greatly inconvenienced by the heavy snowfall, and the trains are delayed more or less. The snow was very heavy on the line of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore railroad—particularly so between Elkins and Baltimore. At the point the train was forced to come to a standstill, and it was some time before it could proceed. The afternoon train from New York, which was expected to arrive at 3 o'clock, was delayed, and other trains were also behind time. The through trains on the Baltimore and Ohio road were also delayed by the storm, the 8:05 train coming in at the usual time with the 8:30 train. Drifts are reported all along the road, causing the delay.

The fire departments yesterday fired extra horses for the different companies, for fear that the heavy snow would delay the engines if an alarm should be sounded. Four horses will be attached to each engine.

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A dispatch from Sumter county says the oranges there are not damaged. That county is about 110 miles south of this city. The coldest weather on record prevails here. The thermometer in this city stood at 4 degrees above zero, and on Alabama Hills at 10. The snow-fall of yesterday virtually suspended business.

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